

Service Date: May 27, 2004

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

IN THE MATTER of a Commission)	
Investigation of Electricity)	UTILITY DIVISION
Market Activity Affecting Retail)	
Customers During the Period 2000)	DOCKET NO. D2004.2.21
through 2001)	
)	ORDER NO. 6531b

PROCEDURAL ORDER

Introduction

On February 12, 2004 the Commission issued Order Initiating Investigation, Order No. 6531 in this docket. In that Order the Commission directed its staff to issue a procedural order that "will provide an opportunity for discovery on Montana public utilities, licensed electricity suppliers and other entities that may possess relevant information and are subject to the investigative authority of the Commission." This order is issued pursuant to that directive, and to Commission direction given at a regularly scheduled work session on May 25, 2004.

Order

For purposes of this docket the Commission will not issue its usual procedural order and procedural schedule. Rather, parties to this docket may conduct their investigation using discovery available in civil actions pursuant to the Montana Rules of Civil Procedure. See also ARM 38.2.3301, et seq. The investigation/discovery period in this docket will end on August 25, 2004, but may be extended for cause. Following the close of the investigation/discovery period the Commission will establish a deadline for filing a report and making recommendations. Parties doing discovery shall copy the Commission electronically at svick@state.mt.us, and other parties on request. Parties must instruct that discovery responses be served electronically on the Commission at the same address, unless responses are not available electronically, in which case

parties must advise the Commission staff and other parties, and make arrangements for hard copy service.

BY THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BOB ROWE, Chairman

THOMAS J. SCHNEIDER, Vice Chairman

MATT BRAINARD, Commissioner

GREG JERGESON, Commissioner

JAY STOVALL, Commissioner